

1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
3 MELVIN NEWSOME, et al. * CIVIL ACTION S01-2257
4 Plaintiffs *
5 vs. Baltimore, Maryland
6 *
7 UP-TO-DATE LAUNDRY, INC, * April 3, 2003
8 et al. *
9 Defendants * * *
10 * * * * *
11 Deposition of VERONICA JOHNSON, a witness
12 of lawful age, taken on behalf of the Defendants in the
13 above-entitled cause, pending in the District Court of
14 the United States for the District of Maryland, before
15 Dawn L. Venker, a Notary Public in and for Baltimore
16 County, Maryland, at 7 St. Paul Street, 15th Floor,
17 Baltimore, Maryland 21202, on 3rd day of April, 2003.
18 * * * * *
19 APPEARANCES:
20
21 PHILIP SIMON, Esquire
 For the Plaintiffs
 JEANNE M. PHELAN, Esquire
 For the Defendants
ALSO PRESENT: BRAD MINETREE
Reported By: Dawn L. Venker

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1 Mr. Fitzgerald?

2 A She didn't say much. She was just -- I
3 don't know, she was like mad. She really didn't say
4 too much.

5 Q Other than the meeting with Mr. Fitzgerald,
6 did anyone else in management at Up-To-Date discuss
7 either the open letter or union stuff with you?

8 A No. No one else.

9 MR. SIMON: Can we please take a brief
10 moment.

11 (A recess was taken.)

12 Q In your answer to interrogatories, you
13 claim that you told Mr. Fitzgerald that Brad Minetree
14 was terrible.

15 A Uh-huh.

16 Q What does that mean.

17 A It means he has a very terrible temper.

18 Q Tell me about that. How did you know about
19 that?

20 A I was there in the plant. You just know
21 when he gets angry, he just lash out and use profanity.

1 Just cussing at the blacks. Not me in particular, but
2 sometimes he get a temper.

3 Q How often did this happen?

4 A How often do it happen?

5 Q Uh-huh.

6 A If he -- if he get upset, you know. I'm
7 not going to say often. It wasn't a usual thing he
8 did. Now and then he would use profanity.

9 Q Do you know why he would get upset on those
10 occasions?

11 A I don't know why. Just whatever somebody
12 did or something. I don't know, you know.

13 Q Were any -- did any of those situations
14 happen close-up to you that you could see what had
15 happened to make him angry?

16 A No, he probably seen it before he said. He
17 seen it and then he said it.

18 Q I'm asking you if you saw it. If you knew
19 it.

20 A No, I did not. I just heard him use
21 profanity.

1 say anything that you thought was racial?

2 A I never heard.

3 Q Did you have much interaction with David?

4 A No. Not really.

5 Q Did you ever hear Nancy say anything you
6 thought was racial?

7 A Yes.

8 Q What did you hear her say?

9 A I heard her on the PA make a statement
10 that, "All blacks want to do is get high, and Latinos,
11 they want something out of life."

12 Q When did that happen?

13 A '97 or '98. I'm not quite sure what year,
14 but it was between those two years.

15 Q Were you working when this happened?

16 A I was working.

17 Q Was it during working time or break time?

18 A It was during working time.

19 Q Did you say anything to anybody about that?

20 A No. Just talk. We talked among ourselves
21 and we heard it was like, hmm. You know, she said